

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

NOVEMBER 8, 2005

The Department of Mental Health is implementing a transformation of the mental health services delivery system and developing new approaches in outpatient settings that include innovative approaches such as Urgent Care and Wellness Centers. The complexity and range of services, provided in non-traditional settings, will present new challenges to ensuring the safety of clients and staff. Since DMH staff work closely with the Office of Public Safety to ensure that mental health services are provided in an environment that is safe for clients, their family members, staff and others in clinical settings, it is critical that coordinated and comprehensive procedures are developed to guide clinicians and safety police so that a safe environment is maintained to provide care in all mental health settings.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Direct the Department of Mental Health and the Office of Public Safety to develop joint policies and procedures to ensure a safe environment for the provision of mental health services.

MOTION

BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____

2. Direct the Department of Mental Health and the Office of Public Safety to require that all County Police officers working in mental health facilities receive training regarding safe practices in mental health facilities. Training is to be modeled on that provided by Department of Mental Health for the Los Angeles Police Department, and include:

- Techniques in non-violent crisis intervention that would prevent clients' escalation to avoid threatening situations, and
- The management of assaultive behavior, on the rare occasion that such intervention is necessary.

3. Direct the Department of Mental Health and the Office of Public Safety to return to the Board of Supervisors within thirty days to report on the progress of the collaborative plan of training and the development of procedures that are consistent among Department of Mental Health programs and facilities where the Office of Public Safety maintains a presence.

I FURTHER MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Direct the Department of Mental Health to review and recommend training for the Sheriff's department personnel working within the mental health wards at Twin Towers.

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